



CENTRAL OTAGO PINOT NOIR

"In general these wines have a very deep colour and high acidity. The area has high levels of UV light, 40% greater than you'd expect for its latitude, which helps explain the generally deep colour, as the grape skins thicken in response" **Tim Atkin MW**

	<p>2013 FELTON ROAD Block 5 Pinot Noir (Bannockburn, Central Otago, NZ) \$275</p> <p>The "Grand Cru" of New Zealand. Bob Campbell : "Block 5 lives up to its exalted reputation in an excellent Central Otago vintage. A fragrant, almost floral nose with the scent of dark berries, violet and wildflowers. Concentrated flavours on the palate with a stronger fruit focus together with a savoury, spicy influence. Obviously youthful with hidden depths that will be revealed in time. A smooth, rich texture adds appeal while a lengthy finish indicates impressive power. Rating : 97 Points"</p> <p style="text-align: right;">WF</p>
	<p>2013 HAWKSHEAD "First Vines" Pinot Noir (Gibbston, Central Otago) \$175</p> <p>Raymond Chan : "Even red in colour with a bouquet of red berry fruits infused with complexing savoury game, dried herb, piquant stalk & earthy notes. Medium-bodied & elegantly concentrated, the palate features a fine core of red fruits melded with herb & stalky elements. The cooler spectrum expression & acidity lend poise & a degree of finesse to the palate. Refined tannin extraction & structure lead to a long, lingering finish with dried herb nuances & complex, cooler, savoury flavours & good acid poise. Rating : 18 / 20"</p> <p style="text-align: right;">WC</p>
	<p>2013 LOWBURN FERRY "Skeleton Creek" Pinot Noir (Lowburn & Queensberry, Central Otago) \$125</p> <p>Raymond Chan : "The Lowburn Ferry Pinot Noirs of Roger and Jean Gibson are among some of Central Otago's most awarded. The 2013 shows a very dark, purple-hued ruby-red colour with intense aromas of ripe raspberry and boysenberry fruits intermixed with black plums, herbs and stalky elements. These all come through on the medium to full underlined by a firm, tannin core and brisk, racy acidity. The palate unfolds with earth and game nuances leading to a long, dry-textured finish. Rating : 5 Stars, 19/20"</p> <p style="text-align: right;">WS</p>
	<p>2013 ROCKBURN Pinot Noir (Parkburn, Central Otago) \$135</p> <p>Raymond Chan : "Malcolm Rees-Francis is the 'rock star' of Central Otago, producing wines that are perfectly judged with classical ripeness & textbook Central Otago fruit expression. The 2013 is dark ruby-red in colour, the nose is elegant with good intensity of vibrantly bright, aromatic black cherry & dark / red berry fruit & some oak char. Medium to full bodied, the fruit is entwined with subtle dark herb & floral notes, spices, liquorice & hints of toasty oak. A very elegant, sweetly rich, smooth & harmonious Pinot Noir with supple tannins. Rating 18.5 / 20"</p> <p style="text-align: right;">WC</p>
	<p>2013 VALLI "Bendigo Vineyard" Pinot Noir (Bendigo, Central Otago) \$145</p> <p>Raymond Chan : "This comes from Chinaman's Terrace high up in Bendigo. Valli has achieved "cult" status in New Zealand & these tiny production, single vineyard bottlings are extremely limited & highly sought after. Full, very dark ruby-red colour. Concentrated nose with intense black cherry & mineral aromas with subtle savoury herb notes. Medium to full bodied, with tightly concentrated flavours of black cherries with violet, liquorice & herbs, minerals & earth. The fruit is rich & sweet, enlivened by soft acidity. The palate features considerable extraction & structure, with a tightly bound finish of succulent black fruits supported by very fine-grained powdery tannins. Rating 96 / 97 Points</p> <p style="text-align: right;">WS</p>
	<p>2013 WILD ROCK "Cupids Arrow" Pinot Noir (Cromwell Basin and Gibbston Valley, Central Otago) \$65</p> <p>NWM : "Semi translucent dark red purple colour with a tinge of black on the edges and a purple hue. The nose exhibits inky dark cherry aromas over cedar, meatiness and light earth. Light to medium weight on the palate inky dark cherry flavours are intermixed with some toasty cedar and earthy spice. Slightly dryish finish with fine grained tannins. Aftertaste of inky dark cherries, cedar and earth." ("Wild Rock Wine Company is a collaboration between perhaps New Zealand's most acclaimed winemaker and passionate viticulturist, Steve Smith MW and Craggy Range Winery" Cara Rutherford)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">WS</p>
	<p>2014 LINCOLN FAMILY "Distant Land" Pinot Noir (Alexandria, Central Otago) \$65</p> <p>This is a silky smooth and delicious wine from one of the best regions in the world for pinot. It is nicely balanced with soft red fruit, nice gentle acid and a restrained richness all held together with a light web of tannin. From a terrific vintage, this is a delicious and affordable pinot from a top region.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">WS</p>
	<p>2015 MT DIFFICULTY "Chinamans Terrace" Pinot Noir (Bendigo, Central Otago) \$155</p> <p>Raymond Chan : "Bendigo fruit, 30% whole bunch. Deepish ruby-red with good depth. This has a full, firm nose with black fruits, liquorice and whole bunch nuances. There is savoury Bendigo terroir here. Rich-fruited on palate with high acid tension. Tightly bound black and red fruits with whole bunch stalk complexities along with liquorice and black minerals. The tannins fine-grained but firm, bestowing linearity. Rating : 18.5+/20"</p> <p style="text-align: right;">WS</p>
	<p>2015 TWO PADDOCKS by Sam Neill "The Fusilier" Pinot Noir (Bannockburn, Central Otago) \$110</p> <p>Raymond Chan : "Ruby-red with a nose of ripe, dark-red berry fruits & herbs, red florals, whole bunch stalk nuances and savoury, earthy plum notes. Medium-full bodied, this is a rich, mouthfilling, smooth-flowing Pinot Noir with ripe red berry fruit with plum, herb and earthy detail, on a finely extracted palate. Rating : 18.5 / 20"</p> <p style="text-align: right;">WS</p>

CENTRAL OTAGO

Central Otago is widely regarded as one of the premium regions in the world for pinot noir. Located between Queenstown and Dunedin in the South Island of New Zealand, it has been described by Decanter Magazine as the first region anywhere in the world to rival Burgundy in the quality of its Pinot Noir.



The southern-most wine region in the world, Central Otago is located about 40 minutes from the ski-field centre of Queenstown. It consists of five major sub-regions, with 75% of its production in the **Cromwell Basin** that is situated around the man-made Lake Dunstan. **Bannockburn** is one of the warmest of Central Otago's wine regions with some sandier soils (which help earlier ripening) with the altitudes of vineyards ranging from 220m to 370m. **Bendigo** is also one of the warmest sub-regions and its north-facing vineyards (from 220m to 350m. altitude) are ideal for trapping light. **Gibbston** is on the slopes of the Kawarau River bank and with vineyards up to 420m altitude it is one of the coolest (and wettest). The vineyards in **Wanaka** are planted on the slopes facing Lake Wanaka and the higher elevation (ranging from 290m to 320m) gives cooler temperatures. It is the most northerly sub-region. Central Otago's first vineyard was planted in **Alexandra** in 1864 but now is one of the smaller sub-regions - it is also one of the driest with the highest frost risk. The large area of **Pisa/Lowburn/Cromwell** on is the other side of Lake Dunstan & is mainly planted on lower vineyard terraces and the valley floor.

